



Report to the Auburn City Council

Action Item

14

Agenda Item No.

AK
City Manager's Approval

To: Mayor and City Council Members
From: Timothy L. Rundel, City Manager
Date: June 9, 2014
Subject: Public Hearing on Proposed FY 2014–2015 Budget

The Issue

Should the City Council receive a status report and continue the public hearing on the proposed FY 2014–2015 budget to the June 23rd meeting, planning to adopt a continuing resolution that evening and to consider the budget for adoption on July 14th?

Conclusions and Recommendation

As the Council knows, former City Finance Director Andy Heath is assisting the City on a moonlighting basis with the development of a budget for the coming fiscal year to allow the City to defer hiring a new Finance Director until after my arrival. He did so and the proposed budget was reviewed by the City Council's Administration Committee (Mayor Powers and Councilmember Kirby). The Council also approved a budget process that calls for a public hearing on the proposed budget on June 9 and adoption on June 23rd in advance of the June 30th expiration of the current budget and the spending authority it confers on me and City staff.

I would like a short extension of this schedule to provide for a June 23rd public hearing and adoption of continuing resolution to allow continued spending authority until the July 14th Council meeting, with adoption of the budget expected that evening. This will allow me more time to familiarize myself with the proposal, consult with department heads about its impacts on their operations, and to ensure you have the benefit of my thinking about this most important management tool. It will also allow me to review current financial statements and fund balances (YTD for 2013-14) in depth and prepare a more comprehensive staff report with the proposed budget. This brief delay results from the unfortunate coincidence of my May 29th start date and the previously adopted budget schedule. It is also consistent with the City's practice last year, when the Council adopted a continuing resolution for a few days in July to allow considered adoption of the budget in light of late-developing information.

Accordingly, I recommend you receive this report on June 9th and continue the public hearing until June 23rd, planning to adopt a continuing resolution that evening and to adopt the budget on July 14th.

Fiscal Implications

The resources to develop the proposed budget are within the spending authority conferred by the FY 2013–2014 budget and continuing current spending levels through July 14th will have no appreciable impact on the City’s ability to adopt and implement a budget for the coming year.

Alternatives to the Recommended Action

Combine the public hearing and budget adoption on June 23rd.

Schedule a special meeting to allow both a public hearing and budget adoption on separate dates in June.